to the necessity of manufacturing these stamps entailing a good deal of trouble and labour on the part of the department concerned and issue them to the various offices, wasting so much time in the matter of affixing these stamps, with occasional difficulties caused by the stamps missing and thereby the addressee being called upon to pay over again? Why all this trouble should be undergone, is not very clear. Hence I have very great pleasure in supporting Mr. Padmanabha Pillai's motion.

MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): I have nothing to add to what I said.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I too have nothing to say. As regards the question as to what led the Government to alter the old system, I am not in a position to say anything. I have not seen the file myself. The reason appears to me to be the one that I suggested, *viz.*, to prevent all possibilities of abuse. There might not have been any other reason except to enable the Anchal Department to find out the exact value of the covers that they carry on behalf of Government and to give them credit for that. These reasons appear to be adequate. This system is not peculiar to Travancore. This is the practice adopted all over India so far as I know. I think it would not be safe to revert to the old system which must have been abandoned for the above reasons.

MR. T. LAKSHMANA PILLAI (*Nominated*): Was it not one of the reasons to abandon the old system, that, but for these service stamps, it would be very difficult to ascertain the exact weight of the letters, credit being given to the Anchal Department, and would it not also be much better that all the letters are weighed accurately?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I am not sure. I have not read the file.

MR. T. LAKSHMANA PILLAI (*Nominated*): I believe that was one of the reasons.

MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): I am not convinced of the necessity for the retention of these service stamps; but if Mr. George would give an assurance that he would look into the matter—

PRESIDENT: This is a question of which no notice has been given. The Financial Secretary says that he will look into the matter.

MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Then I withdraw the motion.

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

PRESIDENT: I will now put this Demand to the vote. The question is that a sum not exceeding Rs. ·88 lakh be granted under Demand V—Stamps.

The grant was made.

DEMND VI - REGISTRATION.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, I beg to move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 2·66 lakhs under Demand VI—Registration.

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[Mr. K. P. Raman Pillai.]

Motion 150.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI (*Quilon*): I beg to make the following motion:—

150. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 12,000 for binding charges by Rs. 100.

My object is to draw the attention of the heads of departments, particularly those of them who have their headquarters at Trivandrum, to get the binding work done from the Government Press, where the binding section have work only for half the period during which they are employed in the Press. There was a good deal of correspondence about this. It is a matter for consideration whether these men employed there should not be given full time work so long as they are compelled to remain in the Press all the $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours. I want only an assurance.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, between 8,000 and 9,000 volumes of bound books are to be supplied to the Registration Department every year. Nearly 50 per cent. of the books are now bound by private contractors locally. I do not know whether the Government Press will be in a position to bind 9,000 volumes and supply them in time.

As regards the observation that the binders have only half-time work, Government cannot say anything until the report of the Press Committee is received. There is one serious disadvantage in having all these books bound in the Government Press. If they are bound locally, the transport charges can be saved to some extent.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI (*Quilon*): That could not be, because the contractors themselves will have to be paid the transport charges.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Nedumangad*): Are not these books bound in Trivandrum and taken to the several district offices, and are not the contractors paid the transport charges?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Different contractors are engaged for different districts.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Nedumangad*): Are not these books bound in Trivandrum?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The contractors are engaged in different localities. Nearly 50 per cent. of the books are bound in Trivandrum.

PRESIDENT: The matter will be examined.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI (*Quilon*): Then I withdraw the motion.

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The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motions 151 and 152.

The following motions were not made :—

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI:

151. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 200 for purchase and repair of furniture by Rs. 100.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI:

152. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 450 for tour charges by Rs. 200.

Motion 153.

MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Sir, I beg to move the following motion :—

153. To omit the allotment of Rs. 650 for examination charges.

This is a new item added in the new budget. First of all, I am not aware of the details to which this item relates. It is stated there simply as examination charges. I therefore move that the allotment be omitted.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, this item is intended to meet the charges in connection with the Registration Entrance Examination proposed to be held in 1099. It is not a new item. Examinations were held in 1095 and 1096 and a sum of Rs. 614 was expended in 1095 and Rs. 562 in 1096. If the member will refer to page 14 in the budget, he will find that a sum of Rs. 2,000 is provided under receipts, so that this expenditure is more than covered by the receipts.

MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): In the light of the explanation given by the Chief Secretary, I withdraw the motion.

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motions 154 to 156.

The following motions were not made :—

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI:

154. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 250 for office expenses by Rs. 150.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI:

155. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 28,860 for Direction by Rs. 100.

MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI:

156. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 105 for office expenses by Rs. 50.

Motion 157.

MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Sir, I beg to make the following motion :—

157. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,000 for office expenses and miscellaneous by Rs. 500.

Sir, as I remarked during the course of the general discussion of the budget, this item is called "office expenses" and nothing definite is

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[Mr. K. George.]

stated as regards the details of expenditure. We do not know what items are included. Without an enumeration of the various items, we cannot grasp what is meant by 'office expenses and miscellaneous'. Last year, it was budgeted only for Rs. 800, but now it has increased to Rs. 1,000. So I submit that Rs. 500 can conveniently be reduced from this allotment.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is not possible to reduce the amount. The allotment is mainly intended for carriage of stationery and register books from Trivandrum to the various Sub-Registrars' offices. I would draw the attention of Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai to the fact that, when Rs. 1,000 is divided among 76 Sub-Registrars' offices, each office gets hardly Rs. 13.

MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): I wish to know whether there are Sub-Registrars' offices in Travancore that are not self-supporting, and if so, how many?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Except Devicolam and Peermade, where there are only *ex-officio* Sub-Registrars, all the other offices in the State are, I think, self-supporting.

These articles of stationery have to be taken once in six months; and in 1097, the actual expenditure was Rs. 1,374. The allotment of Rs. 800 sanctioned in 1098 is found to be insufficient. Considering the increase in cart and boat hire, the amount is absolutely necessary. This is what the Director of Registration says:

"It will not be possible to meet the actual expenditure even with the proposed amount; and if it is further reduced, it will be quite impossible to send the register books and articles of stationery to the various Sub-Registry offices and the work of those offices may come to a standstill".

The member says that nothing definite is stated. All of us know the several items of office expenditure.

MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Can the member definitely state all the items?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There are several items. They are too numerous to be mentioned.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Financial Secretary to Government*): All that cannot be definitely stated. Office expenses include brooms, nails, paste and such other things. I may assure the House that every item of office expenditure has to be detailed and that everything is very carefully scrutinised by the Audit Office and nothing is passed without being challenged.

MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): What about 'miscellaneous'?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Financial Secretary to Government*): The heading is 'office expenses and miscellaneous'. That is all.

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MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN: (*Muvattupuzha*) : രജിസ്ട്രേഷൻഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലെ ആഫീസ് ചിലവുകളെ കുറയ്ക്കേണ്ട കാര്യത്തെപ്പറ്റിയുള്ള പ്രമേയം പറയുമ്പോൾ രജിസ്റ്റർആഫീസ്കളിൽ നടന്നുവരുന്ന അഴിമതികളെക്കൂടിപറ്റി പറയേണ്ടിവരുന്നു. മിക്ക ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലുമുള്ള ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ അഴിമതിക്കാരായിത്തീർന്നിരിക്കുന്ന സ്ഥിതിക്കു തങ്ങളും ഒഴിഞ്ഞുനിൽക്കേണ്ട എന്നു വിചാരിച്ചിട്ടാണൊ എന്നു അറിഞ്ഞില്ല മുമ്പു വലിയ അഴിമതിക്കാരല്ലാതിരുന്ന രജിസ്റ്റർമാരും ഇപ്പോൾ ജനോപദ്രവത്തിനു തുടങ്ങിയിരിക്കുന്നു.

PRESIDENT: As the motion before the House relates not to a reduction of the total allotment of the Registration Department, but only to the reduction of a certain amount under contingencies, you cannot discuss questions of general policy or criticise the working of the department.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMAN (*Muvattupuzha*) : എനിക്കു ഇതിൽക്കൂടുതൽ ഒന്നും പറയാൻ ഇല്ല.

PRESIDENT: Do you press the motion?

MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : In the light of the explanation given by the Chief Secretary, I do not press the motion.

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motion 158.

MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : I do not move the following motion :

158. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,848 for pay of menials by Rs. 1,000.

Motion 159.

MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur* cum *Pattanamtitta*) : I rise to move the following :—

159. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,529 for pay of establishment of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

Now there is no separate Registrar for Joint Stock Companies : his duty is done by the Director of Registration and he is given a personal allowance. So I have sent up this motion just to enquire whether a separate establishment is necessary when the Director of Registration is doing the duty of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies. In the office of the Director of Registration there are a Head Clerk, an Accountant and Clerks and Typists. There are here also, *i. e.*, in the establishment of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies a Head Clerk, an Accountant, 2 Clerks, Typists, Attender, peons and so many persons. I think the establishment is too much in the particular department and it can be reduced. That is why I have sent up this motion.

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[Mr J. John Nidiry.]

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, Government have been looking into the question whether it would be possible to reduce the establishment of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Government asked the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies to see if any reduction could be made. He says it is not possible to have a reduction just now for he finds there has been great laxity in the filing of returns etc., by many companies registered recently *i. e.* after the war, and that the managers of some companies do not even care to send replies to requisitions made to the office. He proposes to enforce a compulsory provisions of the Companies Regulation.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): Has there been any prosecution for transgressing the provisions of the Companies Regulation?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Not recently. In consequence of this, there is additional work in the office. He says further that some of the companies which are only nominal and are not working may be wound up soon and the others which are actually working or have any prospect of working will comply with the provisions of the law in the matter of filing the necessary returns. After the companies are brought up to date in the matter of filing the balance sheet and other returns, it may be possible to systematise the work of the office and reduce the clerical establishment a little.

MR. J. JOHN NIDIRY (*Changanachery* cum *Minachil*): May I know from the Chief Secretary whether the heads of departments generally show reluctance in the matter of the reduction of hands?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That is a matter of opinion. Even in cases where the Heads of Departments are reluctant, Government have reduced the hands in spite of their unwillingness. Government are willing to reduce establishments whenever there is scope.

MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chenganur* cum *Pattanamtitta*): Are the Government thinking of reducing the work here?

PRESIDENT: The matter is being examined.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI (*Quilon*): Could not the allotment be reduced by at least Rs. 529?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The reduction could be made at any time. I hope the member will allow the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies to have the establishment at least for the time being. There is another disadvantage. The two offices are held in different places.

MR. J. JOHN NIDIRY (*Changanachery* cum *Minachil*): Can there not be a saving if they are united in one place, in a bigger house?

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MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That cannot be helped.

PRESIDENT: As the Chief Secretary said, the matter is being looked into. These things cannot be done in a day; that is the difficulty. The Director of Registration has been asked to examine the matter and report. It has not escaped the notice of Government. That is what the Chief Secretary says.

MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur* cum *Pattanamtitta*:) In the light of the explanation given by the Chief Secretary, I do not press the motion.

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motion 160.

MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Sir, I move the following:—

160. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,718, for establishment by Rs. 1,000.

The existing establishment was sanctioned after the reorganisation of the department, which took place at a time when one of the Assistant Head Sirkar Vakils was also the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies. There was not a big staff attached to the office of the Assistant Head Sirkar Vakil and so this establishment was then necessary. That is not the case now. The head of the Registration Department is now the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies also and that is what it ought to be. I am going to suggest, in another motion that stands in my name, the removal of the office of Registrar of Joint Stock Companies to the office of the Director of Registration itself. The Director of Registration has a big staff in his office; and if he can attend to the work of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies also, I think his office establishment can as well attend to the work of the Joint Stock Company Registrar's office and so I move that a reduction be made of Rs. 1,000 and adjustment be made accordingly.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, the Director of Registration says that his staff consisting of 19 clerks is not able to cope with the increasing work of his own office. So it would be impossible for him to get the work of the other department done by his own clerks. Then, as regards removing the office of the Director of Registration, there is a practical difficulty. In the first place, there is no room for accommodating it.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI (*Quilon*): If the staff of the Joint Stock Company Registrar is reduced, will they not find accommodation?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have explained how it is not possible to reduce the staff of the office of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies at once. The office of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies is held in a rented building taken up for three years; and the period has not yet expired. So that it is not possible.

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[Mr. K. P. Raman Pillai.]

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): But the lessor may be induced to cancel the contract.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI (*Quilon*): I am sure that the Chief Secretary will consent to a small reduction of Rs. 529.

PRESIDENT: May be moved as an amendment to Mr. Padmanabha Pillai's motion.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI (*Quilon*): I move it as an amendment.

PRESIDENT: I have no objection.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI (*Quilon*): We find on looking into the budget that there is an attender on Rs. 14 and five peons on Rs. 9 to Rs. 11 not to speak of the personal allowance to a Typist of Rs. 12 a month; so that a small reduction in this, I am sure, would make up a sum of Rs. 529. The Registrar does not want a special attender and the number of peons could also be reduced slightly.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The attender is for the office and not for the Registrar.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI (*Quilon*): It is only when the Registrar goes there that the attender is necessary. (*Laughter.*)

PRESIDENT: I think the amendment requires seconding.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I second it.

PRESIDENT: Do you press your amendment?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have only explained the decision of Government. The question of reducing the establishment of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies is being considered.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI (*Quilon*): I do not press the amendment.

The amendment was by leave withdrawn.

PRESIDENT: Do you press the motion, Mr. Padmanabha Pillai?

MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): I do not press it.

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motions 161 to 163.

The following motions were not made:

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI:

161. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,529 for pay of establishment by Rs. 529.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI:

162. To omit the allotment of Rs. 75 for purchase and repair of furniture.

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MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI :

163. To omit the allotment of Rs. 30 for hot weather charges.

Motion 164.

MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : I move :

164. To omit the allotment of Rs. 610 for rents.

The Chief Secretary said that there is not proper accommodation for holding the office of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies in the place where the office of the Director of Registration is held. My information is otherwise. I am told that the building—a very spacious one—is spacious enough to hold the two offices together. Another point that is raised by the Chief Secretary is that the building is rented for three years.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I do not hear.

PRESIDENT : The building is rented for three years.

MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : All this fault lies in taking this building on rent for a term when of course the building should be taken on rent for Government purposes in such a manner as not to handicap the future actions of the Government when necessity arises. I think that that should not stand in our way when it is found that the building is not necessary. It is in the interest of the tax-payer that a reduction should be made and I therefore move for the motion on the ground that there is no necessity for such a building.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Sir, I may explain that the period expires by Kanni 1099 and the Registrar has assured the Government that he will try to look out for a cheaper building. In the meantime the rent may be allowed.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Nedumangad*) : Would it not be possible to move the office there ?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : It is not possible.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Nedumangad*) : Where would he sit then ?

MR. R. KRSHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Alternately in both offices.

PRESIDENT : Between the two offices. (*Laughter.*)

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Nedumangad*) : I wish to know, Sir, whether it would not be better to have the Director of Registration and the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies in the same place.

PRESIDENT : He is trying to find out a building where both the offices could be accommodated.

MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : On that assurance, I withdraw the motion.

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[Mr. R. Krishna Pillai.]

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Motion 165.

The following motion was not made:—

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI:

165. To omit the allotment of Rs. 50 for office expenses of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

PRESIDENT: I shall now put this Demand to the vote.

The question is that a sum not exceeding Rs. 2·66 lakhs be granted under Demand VI—Registration.

The grant was made.

DEMAND VII—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, I beg to move for the vote of the House in respect of a grant not exceeding Rs. 1·88 lakhs under Demand VII—General Administration, Secretariat, etc.

Motion 166.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): I do not make the motion standing in my name.

The following motion was accordingly not made.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI:

166. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 47,590, for pay of clerks in the Huzur Cutcherry by Rs. 3,800.

Motions 167 to 169.

MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Sir, I move—

PRESIDENT: There are three motions which are identical, standing in the names of Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai, Mr. Madhava Variar, and Mr. Chidambaratanu Pillai. I call upon Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai to make the motion.

MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): I beg to make the following motion:—

167. To omit the allotment of Rs. 1,100 for Assistant to the Head Translator.

This proposed Assistant Head Translatorship, everybody knows, is a new measure; and I see no reason why this new appointment should be made now. This department has been working for the last so many years without an assistant, as we have got so many assistants in every department without any good whatsoever. This new appointment will also end in failure; so I press for the reduction of this unnecessary item.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, the appointment of an Assistant to the Head Translator is for bringing out a speedy Malayalam translation of the proceedings of this

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